

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A dynamic network address registration system, comprising:

a first device;

a second device, said first device and said second device adapted to communicate via a communications network; and

a controller coupled to ~~said communication network~~ the internet and to a second communication network, said controller adapted to store ~~dynamic~~ a current dynamic network address information address for each of said first device ~~therein, said controller adapted to store dynamic network address information for~~ and said second device therein, said controller ~~further adapted~~ operable to receive said current network addresses via the second communication network and to provide said current dynamic network address information address of said second device to said first device such that a ~~communication path~~ virtual private network (VPN) can be efficiently established between said first device and said second device using the internet.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 1 wherein said first device, said second device, ~~and said controller~~ are further adapted to be coupled to ~~a second~~ the second communication network.

5. (currently amended) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 4 wherein said controller is adapted to inform said first device, via said second communication network, as to whether or not said second device is coupled to ~~said communications network~~ the internet.

6. (currently amended) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 4 wherein said controller is adapted to instruct said second device, via said second communications network, to couple to ~~said communications network~~ the internet.

7. (cancelled)

8. (Original) The dynamic network address registration system of Claim 4 wherein said second communications network is a circuit switched network.

9. (currently amended) A method for establishing a ~~communication path~~ virtual private network (VPN) between a first device and a second device via the internet, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) said first device contacting a controller using a second communication network to determine the status of said second device;
- b) said first device obtaining, from said controller, a current dynamic network address ~~information~~ for said second device; and
- c) establishing a ~~communication path~~ VPN via ~~a communications network~~ the internet between said first device and said second device, ~~said first device having a non-static address.~~

10. (currently amended) The method for establishing a ~~communication path~~
VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9
wherein said step a) comprises:

said first device obtaining from said controller, via ~~a second~~ the
second communications network, information as to whether or not said
second device is coupled to ~~said communications network~~ the internet.

11. (currently amended) The method for establishing a ~~communication path~~
VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 10
wherein said step a) further comprises the step of:

al) provided said second device is not coupled to ~~said communications~~
~~network~~ the internet, said first device instructing said second device, via said
second communications network, to couple to ~~said communications network~~
the internet and to said controller.

12. (currently amended) The method for establishing a ~~communication path~~
VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 10
wherein said step a) further comprises the step of:

al) provided said second device is not coupled to ~~said communications~~
~~network~~ the internet, said controller instructing said second device, via said
second communications network, to couple to ~~said communications network~~
the internet and to said controller.

13. (currently amended) The method for establishing a ~~communication path~~
VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9
wherein said step b) further comprises the step of:

b1) said first device providing said controller with ~~non-static~~ a current dynamic address information for said first device.

14. (currently amended) The method for establishing a ~~communication path~~ VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9 wherein said step c) comprises ~~efficiently establish~~ establishing said ~~communication path~~ VPN between said first device and said second device, via said communications network, ~~without requiring said first device and said second device to have static addresses~~ using current dynamic network addresses of each of the first and second devices.

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) The method for establishing a ~~communication path~~ VPN between a first device and a second device as recited in Claim 9 wherein said second communications network is a circuit switched network.

18. (currently amended) A controller for efficiently establishing a ~~communication path~~ virtual private network (VPN) between a first device and a second device via the internet, said controller comprising:

means for coupling said controller to ~~a communications network~~ the internet;

means for storing a current dynamic network address ~~information~~ for said first device received via a second communication network therein;

means for storing a current dynamic network address ~~information~~ for said second device received via the second communication network therein;

means for providing said current dynamic network address ~~information~~ of said second device to said first device such that said ~~communication path~~ VPN can be ~~efficiently~~ established between said first device and said second device via ~~said communications network~~ the internet.

19.-20 (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) The controller of Claim 18 wherein said first device, said second device, and said controller are further adapted to be coupled to ~~a second~~ the second communications network.

22. (currently amended) The controller of Claim 21 wherein said controller is adapted to inform said first device, via said second communications network, to couple to ~~said communications network~~ the internet.

23. (currently amended) The controller of Claim 21 wherein said controller is adapted to instruct said second device, via said second communications network, to couple to ~~said communications network~~ the internet.

24. (cancelled)

25. (Original) The controller of Claim 21 wherein said second communications network is a circuit switched network.

26.-45. (cancelled)